

December 5, 2008

The Glastonbury Town Council  
2155 Main Street  
Glastonbury, CT 06033

Re: Town Manager's Report

Dear Council Members:

The following will keep you up-to-date on various topics:

1. **Grant Award:**

I am pleased to advise Glastonbury is approved for a \$61,250 grant under the 2008 State Open Space and Watershed Land Acquisition Program. The grant funds a portion of the 75 acre Arbor Acre land acquisition and most particularly the 35.5 acre western most area of the parcel including Flat Brook.

2. **Holiday Schedule:**

Town offices will be closed on Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. A number of years ago the Town eliminated closing Town offices on Lincoln's Birthday and transitioned to a floating holiday. The floating holiday will be assigned to Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup> this year. As in the past, I would expect Town offices to close early (1/2 day) on Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. Signs will be posted at Town facilities, schedules posted to the web site and voice mails recorded accordingly.

3. **Budget Schedule:**

The annual CIP workshop is tentatively scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. The annual town meeting is tentative for the evening of Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

4. **Development Rights:**

Town purchase of development rights to the 43 acre Galli property off Hopewell and Chestnut Hill Roads closed on November 13th.

5. **Magnet School:**

As noted during discussions concerning the proposed magnet school and potential Buckingham location, the Town conducted some preliminary work. This included soil borings and wetlands flagging of town owned land at Buckingham Park. The Town also looked at site planning for the building program developed for the East Hartford site and if such a program could "fit" at the Buckingham site. This was only to determine potential fit and not the detailed conceptual building and site planning that would typically be initiated for such a matter. Basically, could a 68,000 sq. ft. building and related facilities fit within the general area of Buckingham Park. It was clear that detailed conceptual planning would be required before presenting for public review. A question was recently raised in this regard and I wanted to confirm the site fit work. A copy is attached.

6. **Ordinances:**

A review of the Town Code indicates a number of areas where amendments are suggested to clarify certain procedures. This involves satellite recycling, signs on town property, sidewalk maintenance, and other similar changes. I would like to formally present these for Council action. As a first step, a referral to the Policy & Ordinance Review Committee is recommended.

7. **Natural Gas Fueled Vehicles:**

By recent Council action, supplemental funding was approved for purchase of additional gas/electric hybrid vehicles and natural gas fueled vehicles. Once the state grant is approved a community may not change the type of vehicles to be purchased (e.g. hybrid or natural gas). A review of use patterns indicates a high efficiency sedan will likely provide better results than gas/electric vehicles. Accordingly, in lieu of gas/electric I would like to allocate the funds to a high efficiency, non-hybrid sedan. Unless advised otherwise, I will proceed accordingly to maximize fleet fuel efficiency.

I will be happy to review the preceding and any other items Tuesday evening.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Johnson  
Town Manager

RJJ:yo